

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the three paragraphs beginning on page 9, line 18 with the following rewritten three paragraphs:

--Figure 2 is a block diagram showing an exemplary application testing system 200, in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. The application testing system 200 includes the application 102 that is being tested and an XML test results file 202. As above, the testing code can be inserted directly into the ~~application-104~~ application 102. However, it should be borne in mind that other testing techniques can be utilized with the embodiments of the present invention, as mentioned previously. In addition, the ~~application-104~~ application 102 includes an XML reporter object 204 having a set tag value application program interface (API) 206 and a set test value API 208. As mentioned above, an XML reporter of the embodiments of the present invention can be implemented as a plug-in that extends the functionality of the ~~application-104~~ application 102 being tested.

In one embodiment, the XML reporter plug-in provides an XML reporter class usable by the ~~application-104~~ application 102. In this embodiment, the test code in the ~~application-104~~ application 102 can create an XML reporter object 204 that provides additional functions for creating the XML test results file 202. The XML reporter object 204 provides, in one embodiment, two interfaces for communicating with the ~~application-program-104~~ application 102, namely, the set tag value API 206 and a set test value API 208.

The set tag value API 206 provides a mechanism for writing simple values to the XML test results file 202. In particular, the set tag value API receives a key and a value from the ~~application-104~~ application 102, and writes the received key and value to the XML test results file 202 in proper XML format. The key is the tag name that identifies the corresponding value, while the value is the actual data corresponding the test being performed on the ~~application-104~~ application 102.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 4 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--The XML reporter object 204 continuously updates the XML test results file 202 in real-time, that is, as the test cases are performed and information is provided to the XML reporter object 204 from the ~~application 104~~ application 102. In this manner, test results obtained up to the point in which a crash occurs during testing remain available for review. Thus, the XML test results file 202 can be examined to determine the point in the test where the crash occurred so the test can be restarted from that point.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 16, line 3 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Referring back to Figure 6, the method 600 branches depending on the particular XML reporter API called. If the set tag value API is called, the method 600 continues with operation 604. Otherwise, the method continues with ~~operation 610~~ operation 630. As mentioned above, the set tag value API is called using a key and a corresponding value, where the key is the tag that corresponds to the value being written. The ~~set test case value API~~ set test case tag value API is called with a hash table having keys and values corresponding to a particular test case.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 17, line 12 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In operation 634, a decision is made as to whether the current key is another "testcase" key. When the current key is another "testcase" key, there is a nested testcase subtree. Hence, if the current key is another "testcase" key, the method 600 ~~recourses~~ recurses back to operation 630. Otherwise, the method 600 continues to operation 638.--